



Homeland  
Security

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# News Release

## **DHS NABS CONVICTED CHILD PREDATOR IN ST. CROIX**

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—An Antigua national is now in federal custody and awaiting deportation after his arrest on Sunday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport in St. Croix.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents arrested Kevin Orville Samuel, 29, as he was boarding a commercial flight to Miami. During the pre-clearance inspection process, alert Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers discovered that Samuel had been arrested and charged in the state of North Carolina for indecency with a child, a crime that makes him deportable.

The Durham County Police originally arrested and charged Samuel on Aug. 2000 for committing lascivious act on a minor. He was sentenced Oct. 2000 to 36-months probation.

Samuel became a legal permanent resident of the United States in Aug. 1985. As a convicted felon, he is deportable according to the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) section 237(a)(2)(A)(iii) convicted of an aggravated felony and section 101(a)(43)(A) sexual abuse of a minor.

“Nothing is more important to the security of our homeland than protecting our children,” said Robert G. Medina, ICE Special Agent-in-Charge of the San Juan Office. “No longer can immigration violators exploit our immigration system, and no longer can they run from their past of preying upon children.”

“The message is clear, DHS agencies are united in securing our borders and our immigration system,” said Marcelino Borgues, CBP Field Operations Director of the San Juan Office. “This arrest shows that criminals and immigration status violators who perceive an opportunity to move around the Virgin Islands undetected to gain access to the United States are sorely mistaken.”

This arrest is part of Operation Predator, a comprehensive national initiative to protect young people from sexual predators. Operation Predator targets human traffickers, international sex tourists, Internet pornographers and foreign national predators whose crimes make them deportable. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 4,900 individuals and deported more than 2,100 foreign nationals.

Additional information about Operation Predator is available on the web at [www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov).

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

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